

Virginia Green Profile



Loft Mountain Information Center Mile 79.5, Skyline Drive



Loft Mountain Information Center is located at mile 79.5 on Skyline Drive. The Center offers restrooms, an information desk, a small bookstore, publications, maps, backcountry permits, and first aid. The Frazier Trail trailhead is located across Skyline Drive from the Center. Hours of operation are 9 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Friday through Sunday.

Green Statement: "Loft Mountain Information Center is participating in the *Virginia Green* challenge to honor the 75th anniversary of the Blue Ridge Parkway and looks forward to celebrating 75 years of Shenandoah National Park in 2011."



GREEN ACTIVITIES

☒ **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Virginia Green facilities must recycle glass bottles and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:

- Offer the opportunity for guests to recycle: glass bottles, plastic bottles, aluminum cans, steel cans, newspaper, office paper
- The facility also recycles: office paper, print/toner cartridges, cardboard, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment

☒ **Minimization of Disposables.** Participants are encouraged to minimize use of all disposables. This facility pledges that they:

- Use disposable foodservice items that are made with recycled content

☒ **Solid Waste Reduction.** The facility must have a plan for actively working to reduce its solid waste generation. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall waste bills

Dining Room (or meetings/events)

- Use disposable foodservice items that are made with recycled content
- Use cloth napkins
- Use non-bleached napkins and coffee filters
- Provide condiments, cream and sugar, etc., in bulk
- Use water pitchers to minimize the use of single-use bottles

Restrooms

- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Use high-efficiency hand dryers

- Purchase recycled-content paper towels and toilet paper

Office

- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Purchase recycled paper with a high-percentage recycled content
- Make double-sided copies/ printed materials
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible

Buildings and Grounds

- Use "green" cleaning products that are dispensed in bulk
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Use latex or no-VOC paints
- Re-use paint thinners
- Properly recycle/dispose of thinners and solvents
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use integrated pest management (IPM)
- Minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping

☒ **Water Conservation.** The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall water usage and wastewater costs

Activities indoors

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have installed:
 - High efficiency dishwashers
 - Low flow restrictors on faucets
 - Low flow toilets
 - Automatic faucets or toilets in public restrooms

Activities outdoors

- Have an effective landscape management plan that utilize native species, metering and rain gauges, and minimizes lawn areas
- Have a stormwater management plan that minimizes impervious areas (paving, concrete, etc.)
- Use rain barrels

☒ **Energy Conservation.** The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills
- Have a numeric goal of how much they want to reduce their energy usage over time
- Calculate the environmental impacts of the facility's energy usage by using a pollution calculator

Heating and cooling

- Have individual thermostats for each room/area and ensure they are correctly adjusted
- Use:
 - ceiling fans
 - ENERGY STAR-rated windows and doors
- Perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Have high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Keep office doors and windows closed when HVAC system is in use

Lighting

- Use:
 - natural lighting

- lighting sensors to turn on/off lights
- occupancy sensors to turn on/off lights
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting
- Have installed LED Exit Signs
- Have installed directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas

Appliances and electronic devices

- Use ENERGY STAR qualified appliances (commercial kitchens, heating and cooling, consumer electronics)
- Use ENERGY STAR qualified office equipment (computers, monitors, copiers, printers, etc.)
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off fans, computers, monitors and other devices in unoccupied rooms at the end of the workday or when otherwise not being used

☒ **Support Virginia Green.** Pledge to promote the efforts of Virginia Green to clients, members and staff and encourage them to join or do business with Virginia Green participants. This facility pledges that they:

- Display the Virginia Green certificate prominently in their facility / offices and use the Virginia Green window decals.

For more information on the **Loft Mountain Information Center**, see <http://www.nps.gov/shen/planyourvisit/visitorcenters.htm> or contact Wayne Soard at soard-wayne@aramark.com or (540) 843-2101.

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. **Virginia Green Visitor and Welcome Centers** have been thoughtfully planned and designed to minimize their impacts on the environment. This attraction has met the established "core activities" for **Green Visitor and Welcome Centers** and has committed to communicate its activities to its guests.

For more information on **Virginia Green** program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/viriniagreen or www.viriniagreentravel.org.



Virginia Green is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

